



XVI.

LA BOURDINE PEACH.

This Peach, according to DU HAMEL, took its name from one BOURDIN, a French gardener, in the reign of Louis the XIVth. He adds, that that Monarch gave it the preference to other kinds of Peaches, and for this reason it obtained the name of *La Royale*.

The tree is very hardy, and a vigorous grower. It is, perhaps, the best late Peach for this climate, and particularly so for the northern part of it: for, in situations and seasons in which almost all other varieties are tasteless, the *Bourdine* is good, and often very excellent. The blossom is small, of a pale purple colour: it does not expand well before the petals fall off. The leaf is small, of a dark green, with a very slightly marked scollop on the edge of it, perhaps slighter than that of almost any other kind of Peach; some of its leaves having their edges quite smooth. The fruit is very beautiful, large, and of excellent flavour; its colour is a light red, blotched over that part which is exposed to the sun with a darker red; the flesh is of a pale yellowish colour, with red blotches next the stone. It ripens late in September, or early in October, about *London*. It has often a very small nipple at the end of it. The